Response to Office Action mailed April 7, 2009

Examiner: FARIS S ALMATRAHI

Art Unit: 3609

Title: Compact Item Descriptor, Catalog System and Item Part Number Validation

Application Number: 10/602,301

Inventor: Norman Ken Ouchi

Date: July 6, 2009

Action is non-Final

Claims 1-8, 10-17 and 25-31 are pending where claims 12-17 and 21-24 are withdrawn from consideration

Drawings must show every feature of the invention

Drawings filed on June 24, 2003 are objected to by the Examiner under 37 CFR 1.83

Claims 1-8, 10-17 and 25-31 rejected under USC 101, USC 112, and USC 103.

Claims 1-8, 10-17 and 25-31 are rejected under U.S.C. 35 103(a) as unpatentable over

Blutinger et al U.S. Patent 5.231.566 in view of Kavanagh et al U.S. Patent 5,838,965.

1) Drawings

Tables 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 are added to the drawings as Sheet 5 and Sheet 6 and the Brief Description of Drawings has been amended to include descriptions of these SQL tables. Numbers have been added to Figures 1, 2, and 3 with amended references to these items in the specifications paragraphs [0023], [0024], and [0052].

The nature of the present invention is more suitably illustrated as SQL tables with illustrative rows rather than drawings. One of ordinary skill in the field of interest should understand these very simple SQL table definitions.

2) 35 USC 101

Claims 1, 25, and 29 have been amended to cite a database system to generate the machine readable compact item descriptor and the database is provided a classification tree as a recursively defined database structure with forks, branches, and leaves to generate the compact item descriptor. The machine readable compact item descriptor can be embedded in item descriptive electronic and hard copy documents and used to query databases to return information and data associated with the item.

3) 35 USC 112

Claim 1 has been amended to correct the 112 issue identified where the classification tree branches, forks, and leaves are consistently referenced and antecedents are provided. The antecedent for the child leaf parameters are provided in the reference to the classification tree. The comparison of the compact descriptors has been clarified.